

AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. [Currently amended] A fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the fitment comprising:

a generally cylindrical spout having an external surface capable of mating with a collar of a dispensing connector;

a generally cylindrical external slider movable axially within said spout and having apertures therein proximate an end thereof; and

a generally cylindrical internal slider having ports therein and movable axially within said external slider between [[a]] at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position wherein said ports are in fluid communication with said apertures operable to allow the flow of fluid through the fitment, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between said movable from a closed position and open positions to the open position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider, said internal slider being biased towards said closed position to engage said internal slider, the fitment comprising a plurality of deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders, said deformable members being biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to one of the closed positions, upon removal of the dispensing connector.

2. [Currently amended] The fitment according to claim 1, wherein the internal slider is biased towards said closed position by said deformable members are located on said external slider.

3. [Currently amended] A ~~fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the fitment comprising:~~

a fitment attached to a wall of said container, forming a fluid outlet for the container and having a fluid passage therethrough;

~~a generally cylindrical spout having an external surface capable of mating with a collar of a dispensing connector;~~

a first generally cylindrical external slider complementarily shaped to said fluid passage and carried therein, the slider being movable axially within said spout with respect to the fluid passage and having apertures therein proximate an end thereof;

a second generally cylindrical internal slider complementarily shaped to said external slider and carried therein and having ports therein, said internal slider movable axially within said external slider, said internal slider movable between [[a]] at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position wherein said ports are in fluid communication with said apertures operable to allow the flow of fluid through the fitment and out of the container, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between said a closed and the open positions position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider to engage said internal slider, the fitment comprising a plurality of deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders, said deformable members being biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to one of the closed positions, upon removal of the dispensing connector.

~~; and biasing means for resiliently biasing said internal slider towards said closed position.~~

4. [Currently amended] The fitment according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein said first generally cylindrical slider having a series of apertures therein to allow the passage of fluid therethrough are defined by a plurality of radially spaced posts connecting a base of said external slider having said deformable members thereon to the sidewalls of said external slider, said posts being spaced from said spout to allow liquid to flow therethrough in the open position.

5. [Currently amended] The fitment according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the biasing means comprises at least one projection located on one of the external slider and the internal slider, the at least one projection said deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders are biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to one of the closed positions by abutting against at least a portion of the other slider.

6. [Currently amended] A double slider valve for use in a fitment having a spout, the fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the double slider valve comprising:

a first generally cylindrical external slider movable axially within the spout and having apertures therein proximate an end thereof; and

a generally cylindrical internal slider movable axially within said external slider and having a series of ports located therein to allow the passage of fluid therethrough, said internal slider movable between [[a]] at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position in which the apertures and the ports are aligned and define a passageway through which fluid can flow, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between said a closed and the open position positions by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider; and

biasing means for resiliently biasing said internal slider towards said closed position a plurality of deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders, said deformable members being biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to one of the closed positions, upon removal of the dispensing connector.

7. [Currently amended] A valve according to claim 6, wherein the biasing means comprises at least one projection located on one of the external slider and the internal slider, the at least one projection said deformable members integrally formed at an end of one of the sliders are biased in the open position so as to return said

internal slider to one of the closed positions by abutting against at least a portion of the other slider.

8. [Currently amended] A fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the fitment comprising:

a spout having an external surface capable of mating with a collar of a dispensing connector and defining a fluid passageway therethrough;

an external slider movable axially within said fluid passageway;

and

an internal slider movable axially within said external slider, said internal slider movable between [[a]] at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the passageway and an open position operable to allow the flow of fluid through the passageway, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between said a closed position and the open position positions by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider; and

~~at least one of the external slider and the internal slider having integral~~
~~biasing means located thereon to bias the internal slider and the external slider into a~~
~~the closed position from the open position.~~

9. [Currently amended] A fitment according to claim 8, wherein the biasing means comprises at least one projection deformable member located on one of the external slider and the internal slider, the at least one deformable member projection biased in the open position by abutting against at least a portion of the other internal slider.

10. [Currently amended] A container for holding and dispensing fluid comprising:

a fitment attached to a wall of said container, forming an outlet for the container extending from the fluid storage space within the container;

an external slider complementarily shaped to said fluid passage and carried therein, the slider being axially movable with respect to the fluid passage;

and

a second an internal slider complementarily shaped to said external slider and carried therein, said internal slider movable axially within said external slider between [[a]] at least one closed position operable to prevent the fluid from flowing through the fitment and an open position operable to allow fluid to flow through the fitment and out of the container, the internal slider being biased towards said a closed position from the open position by at least one integral biasing member located on said external slider.

11. [Cancelled] A container according to claim 10 wherein the internal slider is biased towards said closed position by said external slider.

12. [New] A double slider valve for use in a fitment having a spout, the fitment for attachment to a container for holding and dispensing a fluid, the double slider valve comprising:

a generally cylindrical external slider movable axially within the spout and having apertures therein;

a generally cylindrical internal slider movable axially within said external slider and having a series of ports located therein to allow the passage of fluid therethrough, said internal slider movable between at least one closed position operable to prevent the flow of fluid through the fitment and an open position in which the apertures and the ports are aligned and define a passageway through which fluid can flow, the internal slider being adapted to be moved between a closed position and the open position by insertion of a dispensing connector into said external slider adjacent said internal slider; and

integral biasing means on said external slider for resiliently biasing said internal slider towards a closed position.

13. [New] A valve according to claim 12, wherein the integral biasing means comprises deformable members integrally formed on the external slider, which are biased in the open position so as to return said internal slider to one of the closed positions by abutting against at least a portion of the internal slider.

14. [New] A fitment according to claim 1 wherein the fitment comprises two closed positions.

15. [New] A fitment according to claim 1 wherein the fitment comprises a plurality of closed positions.

16. [New] A fitment according to claim 1 wherein the fitment has an initial closed position prior to insertion of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between a portion of a sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider and a subsequent closed position after removal of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between a second portion of the sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider.

17. [New] A fitment according to claim 8 wherein the fitment comprises two closed positions.

18. [New] A fitment according to claim 8 wherein the fitment comprises a plurality of closed positions.

19. [New] A fitment according to claim 8 wherein the fitment has an initial closed position prior to insertion of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between a portion of a sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider and a subsequent closed position after removal of the dispensing connector wherein a seal is formed between a second portion of the sidewall of the external slider and a peripheral portion of the internal slider.